

CLAIMS

1. A nestable container having a continuous sidewall with inner and outer surfaces and upper and lower edges, and a bottom wall formed along said lower edge of the sidewall, said sidewall being downwardly convergent and having a bulge projecting inwardly from said inner surface of the sidewall, and at least one bulge projecting outwardly from the outer surface of said sidewall, said at least one outwardly projecting bulge adapted to cooperate with the inwardly directed bulge of an underlying nested container to encourage aligned stacking of the containers.

2. The container of claim 1 wherein said inwardly projecting bulge is ring-like.

3. The container of claim 2 wherein said at least one outwardly directed bulge is ring-like.

4. The container of claim 3 wherein said inwardly and at least one outwardly directed bulges include a plurality of peripherally spaced ribs.

5. The container of claim 3 wherein said container further includes a peripheral rim projecting outwardly from said upper edge of said sidewall.

6. The container of claim 5 wherein said inwardly projecting bulge is adjacent to said upper edge of said sidewall.

7. The container of claim 6 wherein said at least one outwardly projecting bulge is horizontally aligned with said inwardly projecting bulge.

8. The container of claim 7 wherein said peripheral rim is substantially parallel with said bottom wall of the container.

9. The container of claim 3 further including a second outwardly projecting bulge on said sidewall positioned beneath said at least one outwardly projecting bulge.

10. The container of claim 9 wherein said second outwardly projecting bulge is ring-like.

11. The container of claim 10 wherein said second outwardly projecting bulge includes a plurality of peripherally spaced ribs.

12. The container of claim 7 further including a second outwardly projecting bulge on said sidewall positioned beneath said at least one outwardly projecting bulge.

13. The container of claim 3 wherein said container is press formed from a material that at least includes paperboard.

14. The container of claim 5 wherein said container is press formed from a material that at least includes paperboard.

15. The container of claim 12 wherein said container is press formed from a material that at least includes paperboard.

5 16. The container of claim 15 wherein said material is a laminate that further includes a microwave susceptor layer.